

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 175

Introduced by Assembly Member Anderson

June 15, 2010

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 175—Relative to the Deputy Sheriff Kenneth James Collier Memorial Bridge.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 175, as introduced, Anderson. Deputy Sheriff Kenneth James Collier Memorial Bridge.

This measure would designate a specified location on State Highway Route 52 in Santee as the Deputy Sheriff Kenneth James Collier Memorial Bridge. This measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering those costs, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Kenneth James Collier was born June 4, 1970, in
2 Portsmouth, Virginia, and moved to San Diego with his family in
3 1977. He grew up in the Santee area and graduated from Santana
4 High School in 1988; and
5 WHEREAS, Ken Collier attended Grossmont College and
6 California State University, San Diego, where he majored in
7 administration of justice, and he first became intrigued with a
8 career in law enforcement through conversations with deputies
9 coming to and going from the Santee Sheriff's station near where
10 he worked; and

1 WHEREAS, Ken Collier began his law enforcement career with
2 the San Diego County Marshal's Office in 1997, working as a field
3 service officer and later a court service officer; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2000, the marshal's office merged with the San
5 Diego County Sheriff's Department, where Ken Collier continued
6 on as a court service officer. In August 2001, he was hired as a
7 Detention Court deputy sheriff and continued to serve in detention
8 facilities, the Detentions Training Unit, and the Court Services
9 Bureau; and

10 WHEREAS, In July 2006, Ken Collier was hired as a law
11 enforcement deputy sheriff and joined the Santee station in
12 September 2006; and

13 WHEREAS, Deputy Collier was described by his supervisors
14 as a steadfast and dependable people person, and he received a
15 commendation for his dedication and dependability, as well as an
16 Exemplary Performance Certificate. He was well liked and
17 respected by his colleagues; and

18 WHEREAS, Deputy Collier is survived by his fiancée, Karen
19 Li, whom he was to marry on what would have been his 40th
20 birthday, June 10, 2010, in Kauai, Hawaii, his sister Nancy
21 Robinson, and his brother Lauren Collier; and

22 WHEREAS, Deputy Collier was killed in the line of duty, at 39
23 years of age, in the early morning hours of February 28, 2010; and

24 WHEREAS, Shortly after 3:00 a.m., Deputy Collier and his
25 ride-along sheriff's dispatcher, Ryan Debellis, came upon a driver
26 heading eastbound in the westbound lanes of State Highway Route
27 52 in the City of Santee. Deputy Collier advised dispatch and
28 attempted to overtake the wrong-way driver by driving his patrol
29 vehicle in the center median shoulder when it struck a bridge
30 abutment. After rolling several hundred feet, Deputy Collier was
31 ejected into a ravine that Mr. Debellis also managed to reach
32 moments before the patrol vehicle burst into flames; and

33 WHEREAS, Despite the valiant efforts of fellow deputies and
34 officers from all over the county, emergency medical responders,
35 and hospital personnel, Deputy Collier succumbed to his injuries.
36 Mr. Debellis is expected to make a full recovery; and

37 WHEREAS, The fact that a suspect was arrested and will be
38 charged is of little consolation for the tragic loss of Deputy Collier
39 to his loved ones, friends, colleagues, and the community he
40 served; and

1 WHEREAS, In recognition of the contributions and sacrifice
2 made by Deputy Collier, it would be a fitting tribute to designate
3 the Oak Canyon Bridge in Santee as the Deputy Sheriff Kenneth
4 James Collier Memorial Bridge; now, therefore, be it

5 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
6 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
7 Oak Canyon Bridge on State Highway Route 52 in Santee, located
8 between Post Mile 11.662 and Post Mile 11.799, as the Deputy
9 Sheriff Kenneth James Collier Memorial Bridge; and be it further

10 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
11 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the
12 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this
13 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
14 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
15 further

16 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
17 of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
18 author for appropriate distribution.